

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/724,035

Examiner

Qi Han

Applicant(s)

WHITHAM, CHARLES LAMONT

Art Unit

2654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/22/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 28-53.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This communication is responsive to the applicant's preliminary amendment dated 12/01/2003 and response to election requirement date 11/22/2005. Applicant cancelled claims 1-15 and 54-68 (see paper filed on 12/01/2003).

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election without traverse of invention Group II, claims 28-53 in the reply filed on 11/22/2005 is acknowledged.

Examiner's Amendment

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was proved by applicant representative, Lamont Whitham, through a telephone interview on 02/06/2006. The Examiner's Amendment is as following:

In the claims (refer to the preliminary amendment dated 12/01/2003):

Claims 16-27 (see pages 6-9) are cancelled.

-----end of Examiner's Amendment-----

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 28-53 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent **claims 28 and 48**, the instant application is directed to a computer system for presenting an interactive multimedia book. Each independent claim, combining certain well-known features in the art, identifies the uniquely distinct features of comprising: a display for displaying text and video clips of the interactive multimedia book, some words of the text being hyperlinks to anchors in text not currently displayed; and an application program running on a central processing unit of the computer system for responding to a voiced command recognized by the voice recognition function to read text on a displayed page of the interactive multimedia book by causing the speech synthesis function to read the text, the application program identifying words which are active hyperlinks in the text on a displayed page as the text is being read and activating at least one attribute of a word identified as an active hyperlink to indicate to the user of the book that the word is a hyperlink, the application responding to a voiced hyperlink recognized by the voice recognition function by moving to another page of the book which contains an anchor for the hyperlink (for claim 28); or an application program running on a central processing unit of the computer system for responding to a voiced hyperlink recognized by the voice recognition function by first storing a current page number in the last in, first out register before moving to another page of the book which contains an anchor for the hyperlink, the current page being an origin page, and then moving to another page of the book which contains the anchor for the hyperlink, said application program

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responding to a voiced command recognized by the voice recognition function to return to the origin page by moving back to the origin page (for claim 48).

5. The prior art of record, Uppaluru (5,915,001), Logan et al. (5,732,216), Brown et al. (6,587,822 B2) and Tran (2002/0069220 A1), provided numerous teachings and approaches for computer based speech processing application, including universal access to voice based documents, using HTML hyper-links and anchors for accessing voice document by voice command, implementing interactive voice response over internet, using speech synthesizer and speech recognizer for retrieving web page, generating both text and audio cataloging presentations and performing hands-free navigation, providing multiple input means for receive and capture data for portable computer system. However, the combined features stated above, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over the prior art of the record.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Please address mail to be delivered by the United States Postal Service (USPS) as follows:

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or faxed to: 571-273-8300, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or: 571-273-8300, (for informal or draft communications, and please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

If no Mail Stop is indicated below, the line beginning Mail Stop should be omitted from the address.

Effective January 14, 2005, except correspondence for Maintenance Fee payments, Deposit Account Replenishments (see 1.25(c)(4)), and Licensing and Review (see 37 CFR 5.1(c) and 5.2(c)), please address correspondence to be delivered by other delivery services (Federal Express (Fed Ex), UPS, DHL, Laser, Action, Purolater, etc.) as follows:

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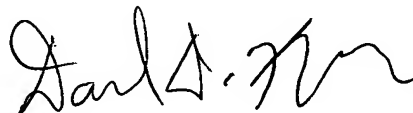
Alexandria , VA 22314

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Qi Han whose telephone numbers is (571) 272-7604. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richmond Dorvil, can be reached on (571) 272-7602.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Inquiries regarding the status of submissions relating to an application or questions on the Private PAIR system should be directed to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028 between the hours of 6 a.m. and midnight Monday through Friday EST, or by e-mail at: ebc@uspto.gov. For general information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

QH/qh

February 2, 2006



**DAVID D. KNEPPER
PRIMARY EXAMINER**